

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01N27/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| A          | <p>DATABASE WPI<br/>Section EI, Week 198227<br/>Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB;<br/>Class S01, AN 1982-J0918E<br/>XP002281382<br/>- &amp; SU 559 130 A (BAIMURATOV E A),<br/>23 December 1981 (1981-12-23)<br/>abstract</p> <p>---</p> | 1-8                   |
| A          | <p>US 6 291 116 B1 (WOLK MARTIN B ET AL)<br/>18 September 2001 (2001-09-18)<br/>column 20, line 23 - line 46; figure 6</p> <p>---</p>   | 1-8                   |
| A          | <p>RU 2 143 678 C (CHNO I SKIJ T I<br/>TEKHNOMASH; OTKRYTOE AKTSIONERNOE OBSHCES)<br/>27 December 1999 (1999-12-27)<br/>page 5, column 1, line 40 - line 44</p> <p>---</p> <p>-/--</p>  | 1-8                   |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C:☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \* & \* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 May 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

14/06/2004

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.  
PCT/EP2004/003278

| C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |  |                       |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Category *   | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
| A  | EP 0 343 593 A (YAMATAKE HONEYWELL CO LTD)<br>29 November 1989 (1989-11-29)<br>the whole document<br>----                      | 1-8                   |
| A  | US 6 483 324 B1 (HARTL JOSEF ET AL)<br>19 November 2002 (2002-11-19)<br>cited in the application<br>the whole document<br>---- | 1-8                   |
| A  | EP 0 329 436 A (ASAHI CHEMICAL IND)<br>23 August 1989 (1989-08-23)<br>cited in the application<br>the whole document<br>-----  | 1-8                   |

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